

## **Water Quality Department**

November 8, 2016

Via Email Only

San Diego Water Board 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92108

Re: Hydromodification Management Exemption for the City of Laguna Beach

Dear Ms. Ryan,

The most recent submittal of the South Orange County (San Juan Hydrologic Unit) Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP), Permit Provision B.3, contains a Watershed Management Area Analysis with language exempting select areas within the City of Laguna Beach from Hydromodification Management requirements. In light of recent comments and concerns raised by local stakeholders, City staff and officials intend to consult further with the community regarding these exemptions. The City Council has formed a special WQIP subcommittee and is focusing attention to this matter. It is the City's understanding that the next and final draft submittal for the WQIP is anticipated for April 2017 at which time the City will have further analyzed this issue and made a determination on the direction. Any changes to the Hydromodification Management Exemption submitted as part of Watershed Management Area Analysis will be made at the time of the Provision B.4 submittal. It is understood that the public will have 30 days to comment on this submittal before the Board considers the plan for approval. We appreciate the process to allow all stakeholders a voice in this matter.

Regards,

David Shissler, P.E.

Director of Water Quality

cc: Amanda Carr, Deputy Director OC Watersheds

Richard Boon, Chief OC Watersheds